1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION
3	DI TEADDEU COODHIN
4	ELIZABETH GOODWIN, Case No. 1:15-cv-210  as Administrator of Cleveland, Ohio
5	the Estate of other BRIAN GARBER,
6	Plaintiff,
7	vs. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2019
8	RAYMOND FRAZIER,
9	Defendant.
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13	TRANSCRIPT OF FINAL PRETRIAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS
14	BEFORE THE HONORABLE WILLIAM H. BAUGHMAN, JR. UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
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18	Chief Court Reporter: Sarah E. Nageotte, RDR, CRR, CRC
19	United States District Court  801 West Superior Avenue
20	Court Reporters 7-189
21	Cleveland, Ohio 44113 (216) 357-7186
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25	Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography, transcript produced by computer-aided transcription.

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1	(Proceedings commenced at 1:15 p.m.)
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3	THE COURT: Mr. DeVan, call the case.
4	COURTROOM DEPUTY: The case before the Court
13:16:27 5	today is 1:15-cv-210, Elizabeth Goodwin versus Raymond
6	Frazier, et al.
7	THE COURT: Counsel for the plaintiffs, please
8	state for the for the plaintiff, please state your
9	appearances for the record.
13:16:46 10	MR. GILBERT: Thank you, Your Honor.
11	My name is Terry Gilbert, along with Jacqueline Greene
12	and Chance Douglas for the plaintiff.
13	THE COURT: And I should mention that for
14	purposes of this final pretrial, counsel may remain seated
13:16:59 15	when they address the Court; however, speak into the
16	microphones in front of you so that our court reporter can
17	pick up your comments.
18	And counsel for the defendants, please state your
19	appearances and introduce your clients.
13:17:10 20	MR. DOWNEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
21	My name is Dan Downey and I'm here on behalf of Deputy
22	Knee, Deputy Nicholson, and Deputy Frazier.
23	MS. WILLIAMSON: I'm Melanie Williamson.
24	THE COURT: This is the final pretrial in this
13:17:23 25	case, the case being set for trial to begin on Tuesday,

1 February 19th.

We are going to discuss the trial and some issues that remain to be worked out before trial, and I'm going to proceed slowly here. If you have any questions, then please let me know. I want to make sure we're all on the same page.

I draw your attention initially to three orders that have been filed in this case which will more or less set out the ground rules for the trial.

The first one is ECF Number 113, the amended trial order.

ECF Number 123, which is the supplemental trial order.

And entered today, ECF Number 129, it's a short order, and it has to do with preparations to ensure that witnesses are available to testify and the responsibilities with respect to those preparations, both to opposing counsel and to the Court.

Is there any questions concerning any of these orders?

MR. GILBERT: Procedural question.

THE COURT: Sure.

MR. GILBERT: So I have to say, I was a little bit surprised at the total ban on asking for sidebars during the course of this trial.

I think that there are times in a trial where counsel needs to ask for a trial -- a sidebar because of the

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1 seriousness of the objection, which the Court may or may not 2 understand, and I would hope that the Court would trust the 3 lawyers, all of whom are very experienced, not to abuse that 4 privilege. Sometimes things come -- could come in that are 13:19:33 5 prejudicial. Sometimes things can come in that may be 6 7 grounds for a mistrial. Without the ability to come to the 8 sidebar and briefly address those issues, so the Court is in 9 sync with what we're concerned about, it's not going to delay this trial that much and it might avoid problems down 13:19:58 10 11 the road. THE COURT: First of all, it's not a total ban 12 13 on sidebars. It merely provides -- the order merely 14 provides that if counsel want a sidebar, they're to request 13:20:12 15 it, and then the Court will determine whether or not to hold 16 it. 17 So it's not that there will never be a sidebar. It's 18 merely that it must be requested, and I will immediately 19 make a decision as to whether or not I think I need it. And I'm flexible. You've tried a case --13:20:25 20

MR. GILBERT: Right. When I read it -
THE COURT: -- before me.

MR. GILBERT: Where is that part about the

(Pause in Proceedings)

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sidebars?

1	MR. GILBERT: I'm sorry. But when I read it,
2	I didn't notice the the ability to request one.
3	THE COURT: Right.
4	MR. GILBERT: I'm sorry.
13:20:52 5	THE COURT: So I'll be reasonable.
6	MR. GILBERT: Yeah.
7	THE COURT: Any other questions about these
8	orders?
9	MS. WILLIAMSON: Your Honor, I have a
13:21:00 10	question.
11	Regarding voir dire, will the attorneys be permitted
12	to conduct follow-up examination based on the questions that
13	you ask?
14	THE COURT: Yes. You're going to have
13:21:10 15	20 minutes to do whatever you want.
16	MS. WILLIAMSON: Okay.
17	THE COURT: Each side is going to have
18	20 minutes to do whatever they want.
19	I don't want to get anecdotal here, but I had the
13:21:21 20	experience of being called for jury duty over in state court
21	about three years ago, and, actually, did get called up,
22	called up with the panel. I saw a very effective voir dire
23	done by an attorney there that was not argumentative, that I
24	thought was very helpful in providing information concerning
13:21:41 25	certain jurors, and that has somewhat affected my thoughts

on letting counsel have more time.

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Usually, I give ten minutes. But I'm going to give 20 minutes and we'll see how it goes. So that -- yes, you will be able to for 20 minutes, and if I feel like more time is necessary, again, I'll be reasonable and consider giving more time. But at least 20 minutes to ask questions of -- of the panel.

MR. DOWNEY: If I may, Your Honor, just for a follow-up.

If -- say we're questioning a potential juror and there's a need to do a sidebar where they come up, sit next to you and the questions are asked, does that come out of our time or how would that work?

THE COURT: No. It wouldn't come out of your time.

I have had cases, especially criminal cases, where there has been information that's been inquired about that prospective jurors just don't want to speak about in open court, and also there are some questions that shouldn't be answered in open court because the experiences of the jurors, that may affect their view of the case, is not something that should be published to everybody.

So I had one situation where I felt like a priest in a confessional because I had a line to the back of the courtroom where people wanted to talk to the Court and

1 counsel confidentially. 2 And so, that will be provided for and we'll -- we'll 3 just have to see how it goes. 4 MR. DOWNEY: If I may, Your Honor, one other question just about timing. 13:23:30 5 I've only done a couple of these where we timed them, 6 7 and my experience was that the Court issues an order at the 8 end of the day indicating how much time each --9 THE COURT: And that's exactly what we'll do. We'll tell you how much time you've used. 13:23:41 10 11 Any other questions concerning the governing pretrial orders here that the Court's entered? 12 13 All right. Let's -- let's start with voir dire. 14 The parties have proposed questions for the Court to 13:23:59 15 ask, and all of these questions seem to be reasonable, and I 16 will have either already worked them into the questions that 17 I prepared, or I will work them into the questions that I 18 prepared. 19 And then, after I'm -- I'm finished, the -- there will 13:24:25 20 be the opportunity for counsel to question the potential 21 jurors. 22 We're bringing up a panel of 30. We'll seat eight. 23 And they will be arranged in the courtroom. Every juror

gets a number, every potential juror gets a number, and we

start with the -- the low numbers in the box, and then it

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will extend back into the courtroom. But we'll make sure that everyone knows exactly what the -- what the seating is and where the jurors can be located.

The other practice that we have in this court, and you may be aware of this, is that for purposes of privacy, we do not use their names. We refer to them by number. It's very impersonal. This was put in some time ago, and, quite frankly, I wish it were otherwise. But if a transcript of the voir dire is prepared and we use names, then all that would have to be redacted.

So in order to avoid -- avoid to having to do manual redaction by the court reporter, we just refer to them by number. So even though you will have their names, please don't refer to them by their names, refer to them by their numbers.

There will be the standard jury questionnaire that they will complete and counsel will have a copy, and I'll give you some time to look that over before we get started.

All right. And the standard questionnaire is an appendix to the local rules, so if you need -- if you want to see it and refresh your recollection as to what that consists of, then take a look there. And if for some reason you can't find it, contact Kyle and he'll make sure you get a copy in advance of the trial.

There's something else I wanted to say about jury

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1	selection. Oh, it will come to me. I think I covered all
2	of it, unless you have any questions.
3	MR. GILBERT: Judge, do you have
4	THE COURT: Mr. Gilbert.
13:26:49 5	MR. GILBERT: Do you have a standard
6	preliminary instruction for the jury?
7	THE COURT: Yes, I do.
8	MR. GILBERT: I assume it's just the basic?
9	THE COURT: It's just standard
13:26:58 10	MR. GILBERT: Yeah. Okay.
11	THE COURT: basic standard instruction.
12	And the there will be an introductory instruction,
13	and then, after the jury is impaneled, then there will be
14	another introductory instruction before opening statements.
13:27:18 15	MR. GILBERT: And the preliminary statement
16	that we have agreed to
17	THE COURT: Yes. I wanted to talk to you
18	about that as to when you think it's most appropriate to
19	read that stip yes, your agreed-to opening statement will
13:27:36 20	be part of the instruction.
21	But I want to talk to you also in the course of this
22	pretrial about your stipulation and when you think it would
23	be most appropriate to read that to the jury. So we'll get
24	to that.
13:27:49 25	The procedure for challenges for cause and peremptory

1	challenges are set forth in my order. I'm going to give
2	three peremptories to each side. And we'll pass the sheet.
3	It's all in there. It's all in my order. If you have any
4	questions about it, I'll be happy to entertain it, but I
13:28:17 5	think it's the procedure that most of the judges in this
6	court use for purposes of peremptory challenges.
7	All right. We'll then go into opening statements.
8	20 minutes per side. And that is in addition to your 10
9	hours, not part of your 10 hours. And I trust that you will
13:28:43 10	be give them a roadmap as to what the evidence will show.
11	You won't be argumentative, et cetera, and so forth. We all
12	know what the ground rules are for opening statement, so I
13	don't have to repeat that.
14	Now, with respect to the stipulation, since it's come
13:29:02 15	up, this stipulation will be read to the jury.
16	Does counsel have have thoughts about when it would
17	be most appropriate to read it?
18	MR. GILBERT: Well, I think it should be read
19	maybe to the entire panel because there may be people who
13:29:24 20	might feel uncomfortable sitting on a case like this.
21	I'm just thinking that at some point before the voir
22	dire that that statement might the jury may want to know
23	what the case is about, the prospective jury.
24	THE COURT: Yes. And what you've agreed to
13:29:50 25	is it's fairly general.

1 MR. GILBERT: Right. 2 THE COURT: Right. 3 MR. GILBERT: I mean, you know, I can imagine somebody may think: Well, I'm never going to sit on a case 4 where the police are involved. Or I can never be able to be 13:30:03 5 fair in a case like this. 6 7 I hope it doesn't turn out to that, but it's possible. 8 MR. DOWNEY: If I may, Your Honor. 9 I think the points Mr. Gilbert brings up are addressed in the voir dire questions both parties have submitted. 13:30:19 10 11 my experience, stipulations or a statement would be read to 12 the jury after they've been impaneled prior to opening. 13 That's just been my experience and I think it's worked 14 appropriately. I don't think that either side would want to 13:30:30 15 16 necessarily have somebody biased in a certain way before the 17 Court's had an opportunity to question them, from our 18 perspective. 19 MR. GILBERT: I've been reminded that in 13:30:54 20 proposed voir dire questions, that's addressed. 21 So I'll withdraw that comment. 22 THE COURT: Okay. I don't think it's 23 necessary to read the stipulation as part of the voir dire. 2.4 It may be worthwhile to read it -- read the stipulation 13:31:11 25 prior to opening statement, and then, at the close of all

1	the evidence, read it again to emphasize that these are
2	facts that have been agreed to by the parties and they are
3	to consider them as having been proven for purposes of this
4	case.
13:31:28 5	MR. DOWNEY: We agree, Your Honor.
6	THE COURT: All right. So that's the way
7	we'll proceed with that.
8	So we have opening statement. And then and then,
9	we're going to go forward with plaintiff's case, followed by
13:31:41 10	defendants' case.
11	I want to make sure that that I have the witness
12	lists, and I know that they were filed early on, but nothing
13	has been filed recently in terms of witnesses that the
14	parties intend to present.
13:32:02 15	So is there a document that was previously filed that
16	represents or documents previously filed on the docket
17	that represent what the list that each party list of
18	witnesses that each party intends to call?
19	MR. GILBERT: There is.
13:32:23 20	There is, Judge, a witness list that we filed on
21	November 29th.
22	THE COURT: And what's the ECF Number on that?
23	MR. GILBERT: Number 105.
24	THE COURT: 105.
13:32:38 25	And for the defendants?

1	MS. WILLIAMSON: Doc 49.
2	THE COURT: 49?
3	MS. WILLIAMSON: Yes.
4	MR. GILBERT: But I would say that we are in
13:32:50 5	the process of reducing that, given the obviously, the
6	some of the orders you
7	THE COURT: Right.
8	MR. GILBERT: and other reasons
9	THE COURT: And that's the point for my
13:33:02 10	inquiry. The lists I would expect to be impacted by the
11	rulings in limine.
12	And could you each have an updated list for the Court
13	prior to the beginning of trial?
14	MS. WILLIAMSON: Yes, Your Honor.
13:33:21 15	MR. DOWNEY: We'd prefer, Your Honor, if it
16	was sooner than that, just so from a preparation
17	standpoint.
18	THE COURT: Right. So how about by Thursday?
19	MR. GILBERT: How about Friday?
13:33:33 20	THE COURT: Friday. Okay. By Friday to file
21	an updated list of witnesses for each.
22	And I have the I have the same question concerning
23	exhibits. You recently filed your Joint Exhibit list.
24	That's ECF Number 124. But I don't recall any updated
13:34:13 25	exhibit lists being filed.

1	So what is the most updated exhibit list for each of
2	the parties?
3	MR. GILBERT: I mean, it would be the same.
4	THE COURT: It would be part of 105?
13:34:30 5	MR. GILBERT: Well, we have 106 and 124.
6	THE COURT: 106 and 124?
7	MR. GILBERT: The 124 is the Joint Exhibit
8	list.
9	THE COURT: All right. And is it different
13:34:40 10	from what you just filed?
11	MR. GILBERT: No. This was the Joint
12	Exhibit list is what we just filed today.
13	THE COURT: All right. That's 124.
14	MR. GILBERT: 124.
13:34:51 15	THE COURT: Okay. So
16	MR. GILBERT: Our Plaintiff's Exhibit
17	THE COURT: Plaintiff's list was 106.
18	MR. GILBERT: 106, and that was filed
19	November 29th.
13:35:01 20	THE COURT: All right.
21	MR. GILBERT: And we're still evaluating the
22	exhibits.
23	THE COURT: Okay.
24	MR. GILBERT: Mainly because of your order
13:35:08 25	limiting certain witnesses.

1	THE COURT: Right.
2	And defense defense counsel, what is your most
3	recent witness [sic] list?
4	MR. DOWNEY: He said exhibit list.
13:35:28 5	MS. WILLIAMSON: Yes. I'm looking.
6	(Pause in Proceedings)
7	MS. WILLIAMSON: Doc 72.
8	THE COURT: 72.
9	And it makes sense to me for both of you to do an
13:35:47 10	updated list by Friday.
11	MR. GILBERT: I would just add, Judge, that a
12	lot of the documents here and items are not necessarily
13	going to be offered into evidence but might be used for
14	impeachment, which you cannot always know.
13:36:06 15	THE COURT: Right. You can't anticipate.
16	MR. GILBERT: Right.
17	THE COURT: But I think at least that it's
18	helpful to have them identified prior to trial.
19	MR. GILBERT: Right.
13:36:13 20	THE COURT: All right. So, by Friday, counsel
21	are to file the updated lists of exhibits.
22	All right. I do want to emphasize what I put in the
23	latest order that I entered, which was the order of today,
24	about anticipating who is going to be testifying.
13:36:52 25	I have used this practice consistently and have found,

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number one, that counsel are very cooperative in this regard, which has always been refreshing; but, two, I have, except perhaps in very rare circumstances, had a situation where we've had dead time, and so, I would appreciate your efforts and your cooperation in making sure that the time that we set aside to hear testimony, that witnesses are here and they're ready to go.

All right. And, again, I will emphasize that. Two things: Number one, we'll deal with exhibits at the close of your respective cases, and that, however, to the extent you want the exhibit published to the jury, that it will have to be with leave of the Court. So you will ask to publish it, and then, if there's some question about whether it should be published, then I can take it up at that time.

All right. The trial is going to go forward in Courtroom 17B. It has all the electronic capability that we have here at the court. And although I prefer the Magistrate Judge's courtrooms, unfortunately, we are not necessarily state of the art, even down on 9 where we do have more technology than we have up here. So this will be up in 17B.

And as I understand it, counsel are making arrangements with Mr. DeVan to come over and to inspect the courtroom and to try out the equipment in advance of the trial, and I suggest that you do that so that we don't have

1	technical problems that that take place during the course
2	of the trial.
3	All right?
4	MR. GILBERT: Sorry. Just one other question,
13:39:29 5	Judge.
6	In opening and closing statements, do you require
7	counsel to be at the podium?
8	THE COURT: No. As a trial lawyer, I always
9	preferred to have some latitude. You don't want to get up
13:39:48 10	in the jury's face, and I'm not going to let you do that,
11	but, certainly, you can move away from the podium.
12	And when I tried cases, I moved away from the podium
13	every opportunity that I had and positioned myself in the
14	courtroom strategically.
13:40:05 15	So I'm
16	MR. GILBERT: I think that would also go for
17	the voir dire because
18	THE COURT: Right.
19	MR. GILBERT: All right.
13:40:12 20	THE COURT: Right. Now, the only caveat is
21	the court reporter has to hear you.
22	MR. GILBERT: Exactly.
23	THE COURT: So if we're having some
24	MR. GILBERT: They have to hear the jury.
13:40:23 25	THE COURT: And we can check and have a

microphone. There is a portable mic. So if that's a problem with -- with the audio being heard throughout the courtroom, and especially by the court reporter, then we can make arrangements for that. So that's a good question. I'm glad you brought that up.

Certainly, if you prefer to just do all of your questioning and examination and cross-examination from the podium, and your opening and closing, that's your -- you know, that's your decision.

MR. DOWNEY: Thank you, Your Honor.

I had one other question procedural.

Mr. Gilbert and I had talked yesterday about Ms.

Knowlton being called in their case on Thursday and that it would be preferable if she comes up once for the trial, and Mr. Gilbert was agreeable to me I think examining her in his case.

THE COURT: Right. With agreement of counsel, if -- if you want to have a witness only testify once, then -- then you can do that. I understand that that makes sense for a number of reasons and that would mean -- so there would also be examination by the other side that would be complete and cover everything that the witness would testify to, even if the witness were called back as part of the defendants' case, so --

MR. GILBERT: Yeah. We have no problem with

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1	that.
2	THE COURT: All right. So as long as you're
3	in agreement with respect to any witness that you believe
4	that's suitable for, then that's fine with me.
13:42:07 5	MR. DOWNEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
6	THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Gilbert, you filed a
7	motion today?
8	MR. GILBERT: Yes, we did.
9	THE COURT: And there hasn't been a response
13:42:22 10	on it, of course, yet.
11	I want to focus on on the first part of your
12	motion: Crime scene photographs.
13	MR. GILBERT: So
14	THE COURT: Well, I've read your brief.
13:42:43 15	MR. GILBERT: Okay.
16	THE COURT: And let me just say this: Perhaps
17	the compromise here is to permit one black and white photo
18	taken by the Richland County Sheriff's Office that shows the
19	position of the remote in relationship to the body. Not
13:43:14 20	color. Black and white.
21	So with respect to that, I'll hear you first, and then
22	I'll hear defense defense counsel.
23	MR. GILBERT: Right. I mean, I think you
24	understand the importance of the location of the body and
13:43:29 25	the remote.

1	THE COURT: Well, you've set it out and I
2	MR. GILBERT: Yeah. And it's
3	THE COURT: And that's certainly facts that
4	you are that you are free to develop during the course of
13:43:43 5	this case.
6	MR. GILBERT: And we need the photographs in
7	order to do that.
8	Also, we don't think that this picture is particularly
9	gruesome. I mean, frankly, it looks like somebody is
13:43:56 10	sleeping.
11	THE COURT: Well, especially in black and
12	white. I think that really takes the edge off of it and I
13	don't see what color adds to it.
14	MR. GILBERT: But we need two. We need two
13:44:04 15	photographs. One is
16	THE COURT: Why do you need two?
17	MR. GILBERT: Because there is because
18	there one picture has was taken earlier, before the
19	EMS
13:44:16 20	THE COURT: Yes.
21	MR. GILBERT: representative came.
22	THE COURT: Wouldn't that be the most
23	probative of the three photographs you have?
24	MR. GILBERT: Well, there's a reason why we
13:44:24 25	want both.

1	Because of the stickers on the body that are for the
2	electrodes that were found that were placed on the
3	decedent by the EMS technician that arrived named Richard
4	Compton who is going to be testifying, when he came in,
13:44:47 5	he he administered the first aid or heart monitor to
6	determine if Mr. Garber was alive.
7	The
8	THE COURT: So what does the photograph with
9	the electrodes add?
13:45:06 10	MR. GILBERT: Because because the
11	because nobody, among the three defendants, need nobody
12	in the room between the time of Brian Garber's shooting
13	until a prosecutor came in the room, at this point where the
14	numbers are and the electrodes are, to say that they saw a
13:45:34 15	remote.
16	THE COURT: Well but this photograph taken
17	by the Richland County Sheriff's Office was earlier in time
18	and the remote's there.
19	MR. GILBERT: Right.
13:45:45 20	THE COURT: And it appears to be it appears
21	to be more or less in the same position in the ones taken by
22	BCI.
23	MR. GILBERT: Right.
24	THE COURT: So I don't see what that adds.
13:45:53 25	MR. GILBERT: Well, we feel that it could have

1 been -- it could have been moved at some point during the --2 during this period of time. And there are different perspectives as to where the 3 4 officers were standing that we need to have the middle one, because it shows the -- a broader picture of the room with 13:46:19 5 the body on it. 6 7 And I'm not -- I'm not going to argue the whole case 8 right now. 9 THE COURT: Okay. I understand. understand. 13:46:33 10 11 MR. GILBERT: Trust me --12 THE COURT: I want to hear from the other 13 side. 14 MR. GILBERT: Right. But I'm not done yet, 13:46:36 15 okay? MR. DOWNEY: I plan to argue the whole case, 16 17 Your Honor. No. 18 We think that the Court was correct in its initial 19 ruling, Your Honor. The defense perspective about the 13:46:49 20 remote is that there is other evidence that links it to Mr. 21 Garber at the time of the shooting through Matthew Garber 22 observing it under his shirt. 23 We feel like delving into the remote, the location of 24 the remote, is just another attempt to sort of circle back 13:47:04 25 into the conspiracy theory about the remote being planted

when there's absolutely no evidence of that. And as the Court noted, the photographs both show it.

So from our perspective, this is not something that would be helpful to the jury, and potentially prejudicial if the plaintiff is given latitude to pursue that line at trial.

And also, Your Honor, we did just receive their -their reconsideration this morning at 10:00. There are -you know, we would prefer the opportunity to respond in
writing as well, if the Court was inclined to permit that,
so that we could file a document of record.

Although, I would understand the Court's position that this has been in addressed in prior motions and a prior ruling.

THE COURT: I think it has.

And as I say, I think a reasonable compromise is to let the one photo, which has 101-1411, in in black and white form.

And it's the earliest photo that was taken. It shows the remote. It shows the remote in relationship to the body. And then each side can -- can make their arguments respectively.

So --

MR. DOWNEY: Your Honor, would you mind repeating that number on that photo?

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1	THE COURT: 101-1411.
2	MR. DOWNEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
3	MR. GILBERT: So there is how will that be
4	transformed from do you want us to do the black and
13:48:33 5	white?
6	THE COURT: Yes. I can
7	MR. GILBERT: Maybe lighten it up a little bit
8	so you can see it better?
9	THE COURT: Well, it's the position of the
13:48:42 10	remote to the body. Certainly certainly, it would be
11	acceptable just to have it this way. But I know from my
12	iPhone, I can hit a black and white option and it converts a
13	color into a black and white
14	MR. GILBERT: All right.
13:48:57 15	THE COURT: so it can be done.
16	And as far as the second part of this motion, I think
17	that it has been the trajectory presentation, that's been
18	briefed and argued and my ruling stands.
19	MR. GILBERT: Well, can we put something on
13:49:18 20	the record at least?
21	THE COURT: Sure.
22	MR. GILBERT: Okay.
23	THE COURT: Go ahead.
24	MR. GILBERT: So, I mean, we don't understand
13:49:24 25	the reasoning of the Court because this is a demonstrative

exhibit. It's not going to be offered into evidence. It's going to be used as -- as a guide for the jury.

And the Court can give a cautionary instruction about -- that it's just like an opening statement or PowerPoint presentation, it's what we believe the evidence will show. If we can't prove that trajectory in the -- in our case in chief, then the defendant could -- could send it back at us and argue that they put something in that wasn't accurate.

Also, we are willing to bring in the person who created the trajectory based on the diagram from Lisa Kohler, the medical examiner, that's in the evidence, and the angles of those trajectories are the exact same angles that were in the autopsy report and described in the autopsy report.

THE COURT: The parties -- the parties have stipulated that the proximate cause of Mr. Garber's death were the shots fired by the three officers.

MR. GILBERT: Yeah. But the positions of where the three defendants were when they shot is -- is very important, and the other -- and the defendants never agreed to even put that in the stipulation of fact.

THE COURT: Well, you have the x-rays.

MR. GILBERT: What's that?

THE COURT: The x-rays are in.

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                           MR. GILBERT: Right. But it -- the jury
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             should -- can see better the idea of the position of the
       3
             defendants when they shot and the angle of the bullets.
       4
                   I mean, it's important to show the trajectory. It's
             important to show who might have fired the various shots
13:51:21 5
             into which part of the body. There's no prejudice here to
       6
       7
             anybody. I don't see how the defendant is -- is in any way
       8
             harmed by that.
       9
                   If they don't think it's accurate, they can argue that
             it isn't.
13:51:39 10
      11
                            THE COURT: Well, the shots were the prox --
      12
             were the proximate cause of Mr. Garber's death, so why do we
      13
             have --
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                           MR. GILBERT: Are they willing to stipulate to
13:51:54 15
             that --
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                           THE COURT: They stipulated to that before
      17
             Judge --
      18
                           MR. GILBERT: -- that each defendant fired
             shots that caused the death of --
      19
13:52:02 20
                            THE COURT: I think they've stipulated to
      21
             that.
      22
                           MR. GILBERT: Are they -- I want to know from
      23
             them right now, are they willing to stipulate to that?
      24
                           THE COURT: Okay.
13:52:09 25
                           MR. GILBERT: Because they never have.
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1 THE COURT: Is that what you stipulated? 2 That's how I understood the record. 3 MR. DOWNEY: It's not, Your Honor. 4 Deputy Nicholson's gun jammed, and we don't know whether a bullet from Deputy Nicholson's entered -- we 13:52:20 5 agreed that Mr. Garber tragically passed away as a result of 6 7 being shot and these officers were present. 8 And, you know, from our perspective, Your Honor, and 9 Ms. Williamson is prepared to address the arguments again regarding, you know, the -- the demonstrative, as Mr. 13:52:35 10 11 Gilbert calls it, that we believe is founded in basically 12 bringing in an expert after the fact and addressing location 13 and trajectory when it's not really an issue in the case and 14 never was when the case was pending in a discovery period. 13:52:54 15 So from our perspective, you know, and Ms. Williamson 16 can address Dr. Kohler as well --17 MS. WILLIAMSON: And --18 THE COURT: Well, again, I think Mr. Gilbert's 19 question is a fair one. 13:53:05 20 Are you stipulating that the proximate cause of Mr. 21 Garber's death is the qunfire from the -- from the three 22 deputies? 23 MR. DOWNEY: I think we have --2.4 THE COURT: Or are you going to say that one 13:53:23 25 didn't fire at all because the qun was malfunctioning?

1	MR. DOWNEY: They all fired. We just know his
2	that two bullets went out of I think Deputy Nicholson's
3	gun. I use that as an example.
4	I think the stipulation we put as a matter of record,
13:53:36 5	Your Honor. I would refer back to the Court to that. I
6	mean
7	THE COURT: What's
8	MR. DOWNEY: I don't want to say something
9	inconsistent with the record, but I believe it's in the
13:53:44 10	record what we stipulated to.
11	THE COURT: When you say the record, are you
12	talking about the transcript
13	MR. DOWNEY: Correct.
14	THE COURT: before Judge Polster?
13:53:52 15	MS. WILLIAMSON: Yes.
16	MR. DOWNEY: Yes.
17	THE COURT: Well, as I read the transcript,
18	proximate cause was stipulated.
19	MR. DOWNEY: Correct, Your Honor.
13:53:56 20	THE COURT: So, therefore, that isn't a
21	question.
22	MR. GILBERT: We don't want to be in a
23	situation where they ambush us at the end of the trial and
24	say: You didn't prove that Nicholson caused the death, and,
13:54:07 25	therefore, he should be dismissed out of the case.

1	I mean, if we're going to get into piecemealing each
2	of the defendants and whether they caused the death of Brian
3	Garber, then we need the trajectory to show how it lines up
4	with the the position of the of the defendants when
13:54:26 5	they fired their guns.
6	THE COURT: Well, fair enough.
7	But all you need to all you need is a verdict
8	against one, right?
9	And then you can recover all the damages that you can
13:54:37 10	prove by a preponderance of the evidence. That's my
11	understanding of how this works.
12	MR. GILBERT: Well, I mean, I think that
13	the that's a nice consolation prize, but but, you
14	know, the
13:54:54 15	THE COURT: Why why is it a consolation
16	prize?
17	MR. GILBERT: We have three defendants who
18	used excessive force when they shot and killed Brian Garber
19	with a barrage of shots that were we say are
13:55:08 20	unjustifiable. There are three defendants in this case. We
21	have the burden of proof. We should give we should be
22	given some latitude to try to explain to the jury
23	graphically how that lines up with the three defendants.
24	THE COURT: Well, are we really going to get
13:55:26 25	into that in this trial, saying trying to determine,

1	1	based on trajectory, which bullets came out of which weapon,
2	2	and, therefore, which shots were fatal and which weren't?
3	3	Like the Brelo case. That's not what's going to happen
4	4	here, is it?
13:55:44	5	MR. GILBERT: Well, I don't know what their
6	6	they're not willing to commit.
-	7	THE COURT: Well, I'm asking you.
8	8	MS. WILLIAMSON: Your Honor, I'd just like to
S	9	bring to the Court's attention, plaintiff's counsel have
13:55:55 10	0	indicated that Dr. Kohler, the medical examiner, would be
11	1	here to explain and this is all based upon her diagram.
12	2	She has been deposed in this case. They did not, with
13	3	their motion, submit her testimony as support, but in her
14	4	deposition testimony, she indicated that she cannot make an
13:56:14 15	5	assessment of where of where the body was at the time of
16	6	the injury. She can only say here's where the injuries were
17	7	because a body is mobile. And so, she can't make that
18	8	determination.
19	9	She also indicated in her deposition testimony that
13:56:29 20	0	she can't make an assessment as to where the officers were
21	1	standing at the time. So I'm not quite sure how she can
22	2	come in here and be useful to the plaintiffs.
23	3	THE COURT: Well, my question is this: Is
24	4	this all relevant? Are you going to, at the end of the day,
	J	

say that some officers should -- should not -- not be found

13:56:45 25

1	liable because there's not proximate cause?
2	MR. DOWNEY: No. We stipulated to proximate
3	cause, Your Honor. This is
4	THE COURT: Across the board.
13:57:00 5	MR. DOWNEY: This case is about whether or not
6	there was excessive force.
7	THE COURT: Whether or not there was excessive
8	force, not proximate cause.
9	MR. DOWNEY: Correct.
13:57:07 10	THE COURT: So we're not going to see a
11	parsing out among the three officers of whose shot was fatal
12	and whose wasn't fatal.
13	MR. DOWNEY: That's correct, Your Honor.
14	There were 16 shots fired. That's the record in the
13:57:19 15	case that we have.
16	THE COURT: And that was my understanding
17	after reading Judge Polster's transcript.
18	MR. DOWNEY: We believe that the force used
19	was appropriate. Mr. Gilbert believes it wasn't.
13:57:29 20	THE COURT: So I believe that that's not going
21	to be an issue in the case and I'm not going to permit the
22	evidence. There's better use of our time here.
23	Now, we have some time before we get into instructions
24	and verdict forms, and I've taken a look at I have it
13:57:54 25	here. Let me just find it. There's a lot of documents up

1	here. ECF Number 85-2, the parties' proposed jury
2	instructions. And there's as I recall, there's another
3	document that has verdict forms that I've seen but I don't
4	have here.
13:58:28 5	And there's a very useful index here that has all the
6	ones that have been agreed to and all of the ones that each
7	party has submitted that have not been agreed to.
8	There is a reference to the instructions given by then
9	Chief Judge Oliver, I believe, in Smith versus Jones,
13:59:02 10	1:13-cv-744. And comparing the two, it appears that,
11	essentially, the ones that are not contested are
12	substantially similar to the sum total of the instructions
13	given in Smith versus Jones, that also being an excessive
14	force case. Although, there, apparently proximate cause was
13:59:30 15	at issue where it isn't here.
16	So my question is: Why don't we just go with what you
17	agreed with? Why is that not sufficient?
18	And, in fact, I have some extra copies of Smith versus
19	Jones, and I'll give those to you so you can look at those.
13:59:49 20	MS. GREENE: Judge, I'm sorry.
21	I'm afraid I don't understand the question you're
22	asking.
23	THE COURT: All right. That was a long
24	question. It was a compound question.
13:59:56 25	So point number one, in an excessive force case, Judge

1 Oliver -- and that case being Smith versus Jones, 2 1:13-cv-744, the jury instructions being ECF Number 82 --3 Judge Oliver instructed the jury on liability and damages, 4 and I believe this is the case where present counsel for the plaintiff was also representing the plaintiff. 14:00:33 5 MR. GILBERT: That's correct. 6 7 MS. GREENE: That's correct. 8 THE COURT: That's correct. 9 All right. So you're familiar with these 14:00:41 10 instructions --11 MR. GILBERT: Right. THE COURT: -- or at least you were at one 12 13 point in time familiar with these instructions. 14 And, in fact, I believe you cite these instructions 14:00:50 15 as -- as the legal basis for some of the instructions that 16 have been proposed. So that's point number one. 17 Point number two, in comparing what Judge Oliver gave 18 in Smith versus Jones with what you have agreed to, jointly 19 proposed jury instructions, that they -- what he gave and 14:01:18 20 what you've agreed to appear to be substantially similar 21 with respect to both liability and damages. 22 And my question is then -- it appears to be 23 comprehensive. His instructions in Smith versus Jones make 2.4 sense to me. Why do we really need to get into these 14:01:42 25 instructions where -- where you can't agree? Why not just

1	go with something substantially similar to what Judge Oliver
2	did in Smith versus Jones, which is which is, for the
3	most part, what you've agreed to?
4	MS. GREENE: Judge, plaintiff would be willing
14:02:01 5	to accept
6	THE COURT: Excuse me?
7	MS. GREENE: Plaintiff would be willing to
8	accept something substantially similar to the $\mathit{Smith}\ v.$
9	Jones.
14:02:10 10	THE COURT: I don't expect you to make a
11	commitment today, but take it into consideration.
12	MS. WILLIAMSON: Thank you.
13	THE COURT: Let me just say that, as is clear,
14	what we basically have here is a Section 1983 excessive
14:02:24 15	force claim, and we have a state assault and battery claim,
16	and we have a wrongful death claim, and we have a survivors
17	claim. But I do want to ask about the survivors claim.
18	I've read quite a bit of case law in the last few days
19	to put all the pieces together, and the case law in this
14:02:50 20	circuit seems clear to me that this state law assault and
21	battery claim, the liability standard, is the same as for
22	excessive force. And so, therefore, to give two
23	instructions on two different claims is potentially
24	confusing to the jury. And I don't know whether that was
14:03:11 25	what Judge Oliver was thinking in Smith versus Jones, but

what he did here makes sense to me.

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And as you take a look at ECF Number 82, what he did was he instructed on excessive force, and then he instructed on damages for survivorship and wrongful death, and there's nothing in here about assault and battery because, basically, the standard is the same, so -- the standard for liability is the same.

So take that under consideration. We're going to revisit this as the trial -- as we get to that point in trial, but it seems to me that what Judge Oliver did here is a very well -- is a very well-crafted set of instructions and they're very clear and plain and provide a roadmap for the jury to work its way through this. It doesn't confuse them.

And if you want jury interrogatories, if -- if they're taken off of the instructions that Judge -- and I believe he may have given interrogatories in that case, too, you can check the docket and I'll check the docket -- but I believe that the approach he took here is -- is a constructive, helpful one, and is -- and it's certainly worthy of consideration and would get us to where we needed to be here.

All right.

MR. GILBERT: Judge, I would note, I don't think we have an assault claim.

1	Is that right?
2	MR. DOWNEY: I think that's right.
3	THE COURT: You don't have an assault and
4	battery claim?
14:04:45 5	MR. GILBERT: No. We just have a reckless
6	THE COURT: Well, reckless is not a
7	freestanding cause of action. That's clear.
8	MR. GILBERT: No. It's a negligence, with a
9	higher burden, under the state statute.
14:04:58 10	THE COURT: I took a look at your pleadings,
11	and I and unless I'm really misreading it, I think you
12	pled an assault and battery claim.
13	MR. GILBERT: I think we might if we did,
14	we're going to dismiss it.
14:05:14 15	THE COURT: All right.
16	MR. GILBERT: We didn't have them
17	THE COURT: All right. So that makes it even
18	easier.
19	MR. GILBERT: All right.
14:05:19 20	THE COURT: And that and with that, it
21	makes more sense to go with what Judge Oliver does.
22	MR. GILBERT: Right. Reckless is the the
23	negligence claim
24	THE COURT: Yeah. It's not freestanding. But
14:05:30 25	I understand what you're saying.

1	MR. GILBERT: Yeah.
2	THE COURT: And I understand what you're
3	saying. If it isn't if it isn't liability under
4	excessive force, if it doesn't rise to that level, then it
14:05:39 5	drops down to mere negligence and its and its immunity.
6	Objectively and reasonable is the buzzword for and
7	the instructions that Judge Oliver gave and the instructions
8	that you're proposing seem to be right on point with respect
9	to excessive force, so it's it's up or down on excessive
14:06:01 10	force, and if it's a finding of excessive force, then
11	then you go ahead and take a look at wrongful death and
12	survivorship.
13	You're maintaining a survivorship claim? There were
14	damages prior to death?
14:06:15 15	MR. GILBERT: Yes.
16	THE COURT: Okay. All right. Well, that's
17	certainly your prerogative to pursue that and prove it and
18	then
19	MR. GILBERT: You know, everything is subject
14:06:22 20	to the end of the case.
21	THE COURT: Oh, I understand that.
22	MR. GILBERT: So we'll want to have a we
23	want to have a short conference anyway after the evidence is
24	in.
14:06:29 25	THE COURT: Well, that's right.

1 MR. GILBERT: Right. 2 THE COURT: That's right. That's why I'm not -- I'm throwing this out for your consideration --3 4 MR. GILBERT: Many things can change. THE COURT: -- and I'm not saying that I'm 14:06:37 5 casting -- I'm casting the instructions --6 7 MR. GILBERT: Yeah. 8 THE COURT: -- and the interrogatories in 9 stone at this point. It depends on how it comes in. And we'll see. We'll see at that point. 14:06:48 10 11 But I -- I think it's worthy to think about it now, 12 worthwhile to think about it now, and to be looking to Judge 13 Oliver to see if, in fact, that's a template that fits this 14 case. 14:07:07 15 All right. Any other questions? 16 MR. DOWNEY: Your Honor, on days where we're 17 in trial, is there the possibility to speak to the Court 18 prior to starting? Do you want the --19 THE COURT: Oh, we'll definitely do that. 14:07:17 20 Yeah, we're definitely going to do that, because I'm going 21 to want to go over the agenda for the day, see who is going 22 to testify, and where we're at. Yeah, so that goes without 23 saying. I think I say be here by 8:30. 2.4 MR. DOWNEY: Right. 14:07:34 25 THE COURT: And the jury will be seated at

1	9:00, and I'll come on the bench at 8:30, and we'll go over
2	the day.
3	MR. DOWNEY: If I may, Your Honor.
4	I think, based on the Court's order, we'd likely get
14:07:45 5	to witnesses on day one. Has that been your experience as
6	well with your order?
7	THE COURT: Should be, unless something
8	unusual goes on in the voir dire.
9	So we'll have the voir dire. Hopefully we can have
14:07:55 10	the jury seated within a reasonable period of time, have
11	opening statements, and then start with the witnesses.
12	MR. DOWNEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
13	THE COURT: All right. Okay. Anything
14	further for the plaintiff?
14:08:07 15	MR. GILBERT: Yes, Your Honor.
16	A couple of a couple of issues
17	THE COURT: Yes.
18	MR. GILBERT: of clarification.
19	So the Court issued an order that would exclude, in
14:08:23 20	terms of the question of liability, only those facts which
21	the defendants knew at the time that they confronted Brian
22	Garber.
23	But in dialogue and discussions with defense counsel,
24	a couple things had come up. One was prior attempted
14:08:53 25	suicides, and another was the mental health history of Brian

1	Garber. All of this could come in from family members or
2	medical records.
3	THE COURT: With respect to damages?
4	MR. GILBERT: Well, this is what we want to
14:09:15 5	make sure is clarified.
6	We weren't sure in your order about the attempted
7	suicide, whether that was for damages or for liability. It
8	wouldn't seem to fit the liability because the defendants
9	wouldn't have known that.
14:09:35 10	THE COURT: Right. Right.
11	MR. GILBERT: All right.
12	THE COURT: I
13	MR. GILBERT: So because this is this might
14	have to do with damages, that we have we have a
14:09:45 15	cautionary instruction
16	THE COURT: Anything
17	MR. GILBERT: of some kind.
18	THE COURT: admitted strictly for purposes
19	of damages, I'll give a cautionary instruction.
14:09:56 20	MR. GILBERT: Okay.
21	THE COURT: I realize there's some, perhaps,
22	gray areas out there where that's going to be appropriate.
23	MR. GILBERT: Yeah.
24	THE COURT: I didn't think there was enough of
14:10:06 25	a problem to bifurcate the trial, but
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1
                           MR. GILBERT: Yeah. And --
       2
                           THE COURT: And -- and, again, I'm just going
       3
             to ask the question here.
       4
                   With respect to -- assuming that there's a finding of
             liability under the -- under the wrongful death, who -- who
14:10:20 5
             are the persons who are really going to be claiming that
       6
       7
             they're damaged? Is it -- it's certainly the children,
       8
             right?
       9
                           MR. GILBERT: Yes. Certainly the children.
                           THE COURT: In addition to the children, who?
14:10:33 10
      11
                           MR. GILBERT: Well, it could -- it would also
      12
             be the parents and the wife. But mainly the children.
      13
                           THE COURT: Okay. All right. Well, with
      14
             respect to the --
14:10:55 15
                           MR. GILBERT: Again --
                           THE COURT: With respect to his wife, I
      16
      17
             suppose that opens up a --
      18
                           MR. GILBERT: Yeah.
      19
                           THE COURT: -- a number -- a number of
14:11:03 20
             problematic areas.
      21
                           MR. GILBERT: Right. And we will talk about
      22
             that further --
      23
                           THE COURT: All right.
      2.4
                           MR. GILBERT: -- those issues.
14:11:10 25
                           THE COURT: Okay. Well, the leaner and
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1	cleaner this is, the better.
2	MR. GILBERT: Agreed.
3	THE COURT: All right.
4	MR. DOWNEY: If I may, Your Honor.
14:11:19 5	Just to Mr. Gilbert's point about, you know, Mr.
6	Garber's prior attempted suicides, we know that he's a
7	troubled individual, but one issue from the defense
8	standpoint that could potentially impact on motive when he
9	was in the room with the officers with what he was doing is
14:11:35 10	that he had attempted suicide in that very room a year
11	earlier.
12	And I feel that that is something that might be
13	probative as to what he was attempting to accomplish at the
14	time that the officers were interacting
14:11:45 15	THE COURT: But that didn't factor into the
16	equation of why the officers did what they did. They didn't
17	know that.
18	MR. DOWNEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
19	THE COURT: All right. So I'll just leave it
14:11:56 20	at that.
21	All right. Anything else, Mr. Gilbert?
22	MR. GILBERT: Just consulting with my
23	THE COURT: All right. Certainly.
24	MR. GILBERT: partner here.
14:12:20 25	I think I know when we walk out of the courtroom,

1	we're going to think of something else.
2	THE COURT: Well, it's it's not over.
3	MR. GILBERT: But we'll let you know.
4	THE COURT: It's not over until it's over.
14:12:29 5	MR. GILBERT: Right. Right.
6	MR. DOWNEY: The defendants will stipulate
7	it's been a productive day, Your Honor.
8	We have nothing additional.
9	THE COURT: Excuse me?
14:12:35 10	MR. DOWNEY: It's been a productive day, and
11	we have nothing additional.
12	THE COURT: All right. Very good.
13	I do want to talk well, obviously, there's still
14	the question of settlement.
14:12:46 15	We spent a day and were not able to settle the case
16	before, but I want to talk to each counsel, so just remain
17	here after I go off the bench and Mr. DeVan will bring you
18	in.
19	MR. GILBERT: Thank you, Judge.
14:13:00 20	THE COURT: And we'll just touch base on that
21	question.
22	MR. DOWNEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
23	THE COURT: There being no further business
24	before the Court, we are in recess.
14:13:08 25	COURTROOM DEPUTY: All rise.